GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4630
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2001
PROJECT BY ICMR
MINATI SEN;SURESH KURUP

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has failed to completed a project of immense relevance to national security even after more than 2 decades;

(b) if so, whether the project conceived in June 1997 and after an expenditure of about 13 crores is still incomplete; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a) to (c) There has been tremendous technological advances in setting up bio-safety laboratories, since the original plan of Microbial Containment Complex (MCC) was conceptualized by ICMR in 1977Bio-safety level 1 and 2 safeguards are already available in National Institute of Virology, Pune to Protect the workers from Laboratory infections.It is now proposed to set up a state of art BSL-3 Laboratory in the Microbial Containment Complex (MCC) of NIV, Pune for handling viruses belonging to P 3 and P 4 categories and the Laboratory is likely to be ready approximately in 18 months.